The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 23. CHICAGO, TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1870. NUMBER 266.

POSITION.

A Political Crisis Imminent in Spain.

Admiral Topete Retires from the Cabinet.

Testimony Taken in the Trial of Prince Pierre Bonaparte.

Failure of France to Secure Representation in the Ecumenical Council.

FRANCE.

TUESDAY, March 21.—The High Court of Justice opened this morning, and the prisoner Rochefort was brought in under a strong guard. Among the spectators present were Victor Noir's mother and brother, Jules Mark, brother of Victor. At last point in the proceedings Rochefort rose and said that the Court chosen to try him was illegal, and he refused to recognize it. Among the witnesses examined was Ulbach, who testified that Rochefort's articles were libelous. Ulbach, Flourens and others were then removed, but they and Rochefort, Fontaine and Grousset were brought back, and the latter was examined at length. Rochefort, Fontaine and Grousset were then removed, tonight, and, as previously, were brought back. Grousset was examined at length.

TUESDAY, March 22.—Rochefort, Fontaine and Grousset were brought in this morning, and the examination of witnesses was continued. Rochefort, Fontaine and Grousset were then removed, and Rochefort was brought back and examined at length. He was then removed, and Fontaine was brought back and examined at length. Fontaine was then removed, and Grousset was brought back and examined at length. Grousset was then removed, and Rochefort was brought back and examined at length. Rochefort

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TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1870.

THE WAREHOUSE REFORM.

The proposed made by Mr. Cary to introduce into the Constitution of Illinois a provision for the reform of the present abuses in the business of warehousing grain, is one of the most important yet brought before the convention. The points in which reform is most needed are: 1. The the Board of Trade, as the owner, or legal representative of the owners, of the grain in store, through its proper agents, shall have full power, by inspection, measurement, examining books, &c., to determine and publish, as often as they see fit, the quantity and grain in store of the several grades. 2. That they shall have the same full power to keep constantly informed of all receipts of grain by the warehouses, and of all shipments, and to publish the same daily. 3. That the railroad companies shall be compelled, not merely to deliver the grain, without extra charge, to any elevator that the consignee may name, but also to deliver it to the consignee himself on the track, if he is ready to receive it, without subjecting him to elevator charges. 4. That all railroad companies and common carriers shall be required to weigh grain into the cars, at points where it is shipped, and receipt for the amount, and be held responsible for the delivery of the amount named at the place of destination.

There is no doubt that most of the peculiar evils incident to the warehousing of grain in Chicago, together with, doubtless, some advantages, grew out of what is the ignored by the Warehousing act of 1867 as the public warehousing system, as distinguished from the private warehousing or special deposit system. The public system is defined as that wherein the grain of each owner is merged with that of all others of the same grade. The private is that in which the grain of each owner is kept separate, which, in our mode of warehousing, applies to less than ten bushels in the thousand. Under the public warehousing system, it is an inseparable consequence of the right of the warehouseman to mix the grain, that the individual owners of the grain lose their title to it upon its delivery, and acquire, in exchange therefor, a title merely in the warehouse receipt, just as a depositor in a bank ceases to own the notes he deposits, and is merely the creditor of the bank in a certain sum. The warehouses become, virtually, grain banks, issuing a currency of grain certificates, in which, and not in the grain itself, business goes on in the Board of Trade. From this we argue that the idea of the grain in the elevators as in all the depositors jointly, of whom the warehousemen is the trustee, or whether it is in the warehouseman only, and the supposed grain owners are mere owners of certain claims, makes no practical difference. In the first case, the nearest representative of the grain owners is the Board of Trade, and, in the second case, the board is the sole protector of the grain owners, and, in both cases, the warehousemen have the same practical title to the grain, as trustee, as a bank has to its deposits, and the title is inseparable from the act of admixture of the grain of various owners. This power opens up a temptation, under the present law as a bank, and whatever means are effective in the one case to prevent overissues and similar abuses ought to be unquestionably applied in the other. The experience of all our States have led prominent citizens relative to banks for the issue of paper money, and there is no reason why they should not treat effectively banks for the issue of grain on the same principles. A warehousing could be devised whereby the real quantities of grain of various owners could be separately deposited. But so long as this remains impracticable, the public warehousing and entire business of warehousing should be made as public as possible. The Board of Trade, as the representative of the parties chiefly interested,—the owners of the grain—should have the power conferred by the warehouses, and the quantity on hand as accurately as the National Government can watch the receipts and shipments of grain by a distillery. No certificates issued by the warehouses should be valid or negotiable until countersigned by the proper representative of the Board of Trade. No grain should be issued by the railroads into an elevator but by consent of the proper representative of the Board of Trade. Either the Board of Trade, or some other public authority, should audit all receipts and shipments, and keep a daily, and, if it choose, an hourly, inventory of the stock on hand.

To demonstrate that millions of bushels of grain are going east by side railroads, and paying several cents more per bushel to reach the Eastern markets than they would actually be required to pay if they went through Chicago, is one of the first steps in the manipulations and charges of the Chicago warehousemen. The best evidence that Mr. Cary's bill aims square at the mark is that some of the very warehousemen previously rejected with scorn and contempt all proposals that their certificates should be registered, as proposed by the Board of Trade, are now anxious to agree to such registration, provided Mr. Cary's proposal is withdrawn. In other words they will consent to a temporary reform, provided they can avoid a permanent one. The people cannot even afford to leave the question of granting or denying the main points of the bill proposed by Mr. Cary to the caprices of each succeeding Legislature. Their interests demand that the main outlines of reform should be fixed by the constitution itself, and made, if possible, irreversible. If the warehousing of grain is kept open to rigid daily inspection, it must be honest. If the right of free competition is preserved so all who are willing to invest their capital in it, it would seem inevitable that the charges must become reasonable.

EXPULSION OF KEARNEY.

The Board of Supervisors of Cook county thinks their power to expel a member convicted of bribery. This seems to imply an equal doubt of their right to expel a member convicted of bribery is not a proper member of their board,—in short, whether bribery is not part of the proper functions of a Supervisor. If the charges in the information of

SCALES.

THE TARIFF BILL.

THE INDIANS.

EAST

CRIMINAL COURT SECTION.

The Different Judges Above the Ability of Their Lower-Born Investigation Denied.

Complications of Spiritual-Court Controversies Rapidly Widening the Rifts.

Police Court Practicing Attorney.

The regular weekly meeting of the Common Council was held last night. Present: Aldermen Rawleigh, Bailey, Wheeler, Hoerner, Kreft, Hoffman, Cullerton, Hoyne, Bonfield, Wilson, Hesing, Hildreth, Cullen, Dyer, Bonner, Cooley, Carney, Sexton, Colvin, Rehm, Dexter, Mr. President.

PLATS ACCEPTED.

The Mayor returned the resolution instructing the Corporation Counsel to proceed with opening Ogden avenue, without his approval, as he objected to the mode laid by the charter the assessment of damages. The resolution was passed over the Mayor's veto—Yeas, 21; nays, 14.

A communication was received from the Mayor, which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

PUBLIC AVENUE.

The vote by which the ordinance for grading and paving Prairie avenue was passed, at the proceedings of last night, was reconsidered, and the ordinance referred to the Board of Public Works.

ASSISTANT CITY COUNCIL CLERKS.

Ald. Cullerton moved the appointment of the following clerks to act as assistant clerks of the Council: Messrs. Hoffman, Hoyne, Bonfield, Wilson, Hesing, Hildreth, Cullen, Dyer, Bonner, Cooley, Rehm, Dexter, Carney, Sexton, Colvin, and Rawleigh.

Ald. Bailey moved to amend by striking out the name of Ald. Hildreth. He thought the latter might come down at the next meeting and ask for the appointment of a clerk. If they were in favor of the appointment of Ald. Hildreth, the rules were such that a committee of three could be appointed, whose duty would be to report at the next meeting.

Ald. Hesing moved that the Council, if they had any such intention, appoint a committee of three. He could not see why such matter should be taken up and acted upon from the floor of the Council.

Ald. Cullerton said that the Committee on Public Buildings was a committee of the whole, and some action should be taken before the next meeting. He was in favor of Ald. Hildreth's appointment.

Ald. Bailey said that Mr. Hildreth's request had been brought to the attention of the Committee on Public Buildings, and the matter was then disposed of. He was in favor of keeping the rules inviolate in every respect. He was in favor of the appointment of Ald. Hildreth, and of increasing the number of assistant clerks to the Committee on Public Buildings.

Ald. Dexter said the Committee on Public Buildings had been overrun with applications for the appointment of the Court House, and were thoroughly disgusted. Mr. Wheeler, the chairman of the committee, was not present. He moved that the matter be referred to the Committee on Public Buildings.

The motion was not agreed to—Yeas, 11; nays, 20.

Ald. Cullerton so amended his resolution as to add Ald. Hildreth to the number of the Committee on Public Buildings.

The motion was agreed to.

STANDARD TIME.

The report of the Committee on Public Buildings, relative to establishing a standard time was laid over, on motion of Ald. Cullerton, until the next meeting, when it was taken from the table and passed.

CANAL BRIDGE.

The report of the Committee on Harbor and Bridges, relative to a pass for a canal bridge, was concurred in, and the order passed.

SEWER TAXES.

The report of the Committee on Finance relative to the sewer taxes was concurred in, and the order passed.

The report of the Committee on Finance relative to the sidewalk taxes was concurred in, and the order passed.

Ald. Wilson introduced an ordinance instructing the Comptroller to draw his warrant in favor of Ald. Bonfield for $1,000 as assessment for opening Ashland avenue.

CONSTRUCTION OF ORDINANCES.

The report of the Committee on the construction of Mr. High relative to the completion of the Fire Department building, and an ordinance therefor, was taken up.

Ald. Bailey objected to the following as an unnecessary clause:

"Provided, That such provisions shall not be construed to authorize the Board of Public Works to enter into any contract with any individual or corporation for the erection of said building."

Ald. Hesing moved to amend by striking out the word "not" before the word "authorize."

The amendment was adopted.

Ald. Cullerton moved that the report be referred to the Mayor.—Yeas, 9; nays, 8—and it was referred to the Mayor accordingly.

CALIFORNIA RETURNS.

The report of the Committee on Finance relative to payment of claims for entertaining California editors was taken up.

Ald. Montgomery moved to put the report on file.

Ald. Hildreth moved to lay the motion on the table, and it was carried—Yeas, 15; nays, 14.

A resolution instructing the Comptroller to pay the account was read.

Ald. Montgomery moved to amend by striking out the name of Mr. Haines, and inserting that of Mr. Hoxsie, who had given the bond.

The amendment was adopted.

The resolution was then passed—Yeas, 21; nays, 8—and it was referred to the Mayor